20

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- An ethernet communications system for a power monitoring system, said ethernet communications system comprising an ethernet communication device operative in association with a power monitoring device, said ethernet communications device including:
 - a processor capable of functioning as a master device,
- a communications interface capable of gathering, under control of said processor real-time information from one or more slave devices;
- said processor and said communications interface further being operative for presenting said real-time information in a format useable by Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) pages.
- The system of claim 1 wherein said processor is further capable of functioning as a slave device.
- 3. The system of claim 1 wherein said processor and said slave device are coupled, by said communications interface, in a daisy chain and wherein said ethernet communications device is capable of using any of a plurality of protocols for either full duplex or half duplex communications, including SyMax, Modbus and Jbus.
- 4. The system of claim 1 said ethernet communications device further including a server coupled with said communications interface, said server operating for sending data to a broswer for dynamically formatting and verifying real-time data gathered by said processors and communications interfaces using JavaScript and VB script.
- The system of claim 1, said ethernet communications device further including a server operatively coupled with said communications interface, and further including a web browser capable of accessing said server and at least one processor in communication with said server, said web browser generating a login, and said processor responding to said login by generating an access token for said browser for permitting access by said browser for a predetermined amount of time

10

15

25

- The system of claim 1 wherein said communications interface comprises a single physical interface chip capable of supporting dual physical ethernet media types.
- 7. The system of claim 6 wherein said communications interface device comprises a fast ethernet transceiver which provides a media independent interface for attachment to a 10/100 media access controller, and is capable of directly driving an RJ45 interface through magnetics and termination resistors and also provides a pseudo-ECL interface for use with 100Base Fx fast fiber transceivers.
 - The system of claim 1 wherein said processor includes a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server for facilitating communications with an internet browser.
 - An industrial power metering system comprising:
 a power monitoring device; and

an ethernet communications device operatively coupled with said power monitoring device:

said ethernet communications device including a processor and a communications interface capable, under control of said processor, of gathering real-time information from said power monitoring device; and a web server capable of communicating through said communications interface for dynamically gathering, formatting and verifying real-time information from the power monitoring device.

- 10. The system of claim 9 wherein said processor is further capable of functioning as a slave device.
- The system of claim 9 wherein said processor and said slave device are coupled, by said communications interface in a daisy chain and wherein said ethernet communications devices are capable of using any of a plurality of protocols for either full duplex or half duplex communications, including SyMax, Modbus and Jbus.

- 12. The system of claim 9 wherein said web server operates for sending data to a broswer for dynamically formatting and verifying real-time data gathered by said processors and communications interfaces using JavaScript and VB script.
- 13. The system of claim 9 and further including a web browser capable of accessing said web server, said web browser generating a login, and said processor responding to said login by generating an access token for said browser for permitting access by said browser for a predetermined amount of time.
- 14. The system of claim 8 wherein said communications interface comprises a single physical interface chip capable of supporting dual physical Ethernet media types.
- 15. The system of claim 14 wherein said communications interface device comprises a fast Ethernet transceiver which provides a media independent interface for attachment to a 10/100 media access controller, and is capable of directly driving an RJ45 interface through magnetics and termination resistors and also provides a pseudo-ECL interface for use with 100Base Fx fast fiber transceivers
- The system of claim 9 wherein said processor includes a Hypertext
 Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server for facilitating communications with an internet
- 17. An ethernet communications method for a power monitoring system, said method comprising gathering real-time information from said power monitoring device and presenting said real-time information in a format useable by Hypertext Markup Language pages.
 - 18. The method of claim 17 wherein said gathering includes gathering information from one or more slave devices

15

20

- 19. The method of claim 17 including coupling said slave devices in a daisy chain and further including using any of a plurality of protocols for either full duplex or half duplex communications, including SyMax, Modbus and Jbus.
- The method of claim 17 and further including dynamically formatting and verifying real-time data gathered by said gathering, using JavaScript and VB script.
- 21. The method of claim 17, said presenting including using a server and further including accessing said server from a web browser, said web browser generating a login, and said server responding to said login by generating an access token for said browser for permitting access by said browser for a predetermined amount of time.
- 22. The method of claim 17 including supporting dual physical ethernet media types using a single physical interface chip.
- 23. The method of claim 22 including providing a media independent interface for attachment to a 10/100 media access controller, directly driving an RJ45 interface and providing a pseudo-ECL interface for use with 100Base Fx fast fiber transceivers.
- 24. An industrial power metering method comprising. monitoring power, and gathering real-time information from said power monitoring; and dynamically gathering, formatting, verifying and communicating real-time information from the power monitoring device in a format usable by HTML pages.
- 25. The method of claim 24 wherein said gathering includes gathering information from one or more slave devices.
- 26. The method of claim 24 including coupling said slave devices in a daisy chain and further including using any of a plurality of protocols for either full duplex or half duplex communications, including SyMax, Modbus and Jbus

- The method of claim 24 and further including dynamically formatting and verifying real-time data gathered by said gathering, using JavaScript and VB script.
- 28. The method of claim 24, said presenting including using a server and further including accessing said server from a web browser, said web browser generating a login, and said server responding to said login by generating an access token for said browser for permitting access by said browser for a predetermined amount of time.
- The method of claim 24 including supporting dual physical ethernet media
 types using a single physical interface chip.
 - 30. The method of claim 29 including providing a media independent interface for attachment to a 10/100 media access controller, directly driving an RJ45 interface and providing a pseudo-ECL interface for use with 100Base Fx fast fiber transceivers.
 - An ethernet communications system for a power monitoring system, said system comprising:

means for gathering real-time information from said power monitoring device; and means for presenting said real-time information in a format useable by Hypertext

Markup Language pages.

- 32. The system of claim 31 wherein said means for gathering includes means for gathering information from one or more slave devices.
- 25 33. The system of claim 31 including means for said slave devices in a daisy chain and further including means for using any of a plurality of protocols for either full duplex or half duplex communications, including SyMax, Modbus and Jbus.
 - 34. The system of claim 31 and further including dynamically formatting and verifying real-time data gathered by said gathering, using JavaScript and VB script.

15

- 35. The system of claim 31, said presenting including server means and further including means for accessing said server means from a web browser, said web browser generating a login, and said server means responding to said login by generating an access token for said browser for permitting access by said browser for a predetermined amount of time.
- 36. The system of claim 31 including means for supporting dual physical ethernet media types using a single physical interface chip.
- 37. The system of claim 36 including a media independent interface means for attachment to a 10/100 media access controller, means for directly driving an RJ45 interface and means for providing a pseudo-ECL interface for use with 100Base Fx fast fiber transceivers.
- An ethernet communications card apparatus for a power monitoring device, said Ethernet communications card comprising;
 - a processor capable of functioning as a master device;
 - a communications interface capable of gathering, under control of said processor real-time information from one or more slave devices;
- said processor and said communications interface further being operative for presenting said real-time information in a format useable by Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) pages.
- 39. The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said communications interface comprises a single physical interface chip capable of supporting dual physical Ethernet media types.
 - 40. The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said communications interface device comprises a fast Ethernet transceiver which provides a media independent interface for attachment to a 10/100 media access controller, and is capable of directly driving an RJ45 interface through magnetics and termination resistors and also provides a pseudo-ECL interface for use with 100Base Fx fast fiber transceivers.

41. The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said processor includes a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server for facilitating communications with an internet browser.